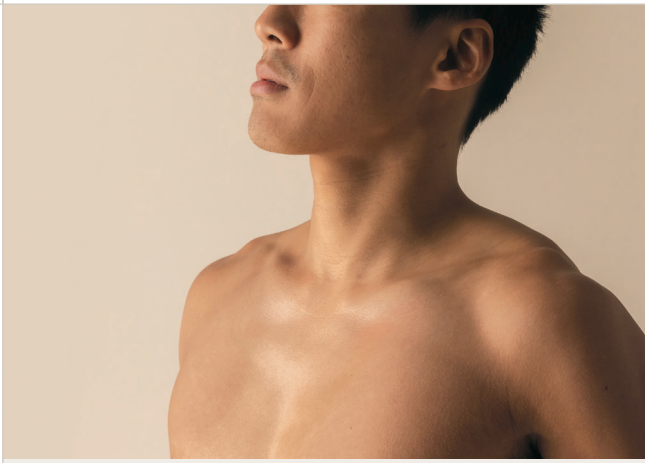
Chest Imaging: X-ray or Low Dose CT?

Traditionally, a Chest X-ray has been referred for the majority of initial and review investigations.

CT technology has made significant improvements in reduction of radiation dose, while maintaining superior sensitivity and specificity. Today, in a number of clinical settings, a Low Dose CT (LDCT) is the preferred imaging modality over X-ray. At Jones Radiology our LDCT Chest Scan Protocol achieves a diagnostic chest scan with superior diagnostic accuracy for only a marginal increase in radiation dose over a standard Chest X-ray.

Study	Radiation Dose
Chest X-ray	0.11mSv
LDCT Chest	0.4mSv
Standard CT Chest	3.0mSv
Background radiation (national average per annum)	1.7mSv

LDCT Chest Scan is a superior, more sensitive and specific scan for a very marginal increase in X-ray dose.



Who may benefit?

Patients who have:

- Had a normal or negative Chest X-ray but have continuing chest symptoms or concerning clinical features.
- Unexplained cough lasting more than 3-4 weeks
- Chronic Chest pathology including:
  - Asthma.
  - Emphysema.
  - Bronchitis.
  - If patient has red flag chest symptoms, refer for a standard chest CT (not LDCT).

How to refer:

- Request a 'LDCT Chest'.
- Include clinical indications relevant to the patient.
- A referral for LDCT Chest that includes one or more of the above clinical indications qualifies the patient for a Medicare rebate.

Questions, Enquiries or Bookings:

1800 375 663

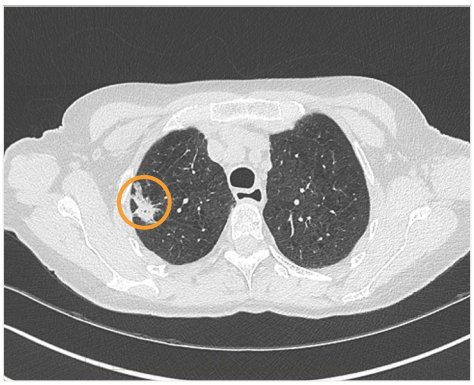
Locations:

Low Dose CT Chest available at most of our metro and regional clinics.

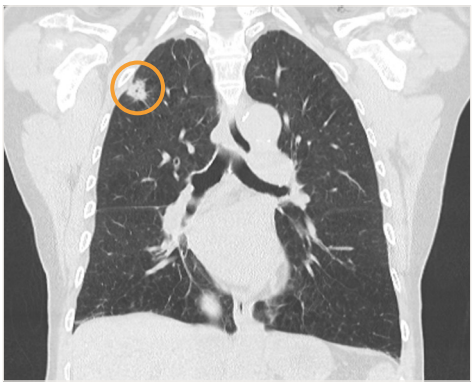
Case Study - 74 year old

Clinical History	• Shortness of breath and chest pain over three months
Examination	• Initial and subsequent Chest X-rays
Findings	• Initial and subsequent Chest X-rays reported correctly as heart failure but failed to pick up the subtle RUL lung lesion
Follow-up Examination	• LDCT chest
Findings	• Clearly demonstrates the 21 X 11mm RUL lung nodule which was confirmed to be Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer

Inital X-ray



CT Chest follow-up



CT Chest follow-up